

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EA-07 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 /057 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:PWKRIEBEL:CB

APPROVED BY S: THE SECRETARY

IO:ROBLAKE

S/S-O: PJOHNSON

EA/K:DO'DONOHUE

ARA:WLUERS

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TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 254964

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KS, CD

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY TO FOREIGN MINISTER WILLS

REF: GEORGETOWN 1732

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING LETTER FROM SECRETARY TO
FOREIGN MINISTER WILLS.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR MR. MINISTER:

I AM WRITING BECAUSE OF MY CONCERN ABOUT THE KOREAN DEBATE
IN THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND WANTED YOU TO HAVE MY
PERSONAL VIEWS.

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THE KOREAN ITEM IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE ON THE UN

GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA THIS YEAR AS FAR AS THE UNITED STATES IS CONCERNED. THE CENTRAL ISSUE OF THE DEBATE WILL BE ARRANGEMENTS TO MAINTAIN THE PEACE AND SECURITY OF THE PENINSULA. I RECOGNIZE THAT MANY UN MEMBERS BELIEVE - AND THE UNITED STATES AGREES - THAT IT IS TIME TO TERMINATE THE UN COMMAND. HOWEVER, THE UNITED STATES WILL NOT ACCEPT ANY PROPOSAL TO TERMINATE THE COMMAND WHICH FAILS TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONTINUING VALIDITY OF THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT,

WHICH HAS BEEN OF SUCH IMPORTANCE IN KEEPING THE PEACE ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA. THE INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES IN CONTINUED STABILITY IN THE AREA AND THE INTEREST OF THE WORLD COMMUNITY IN THIS STABILITY MAKE IT ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY THAT THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY TAKE RESPONSIBLE ACTION IN THIS DEBATE.

THE RESOLUTION WHICH THE UNITED STATES HAS JOINED IN COSPONSORING IS DESIGNED TO BE RESPONSIVE TO PREVIOUS UN DECISIONS ON THE KOREA ISSUE AND TO THE NEEDS FOR MAINTAINING PEACE ON THE PENINSULA. IT PROVIDES FOR TERMINATION OF THE UN COMMAND. IT DOES THIS WITHOUT UPSETTING THE PRINCIPAL MECHANISM FOR MAINTENANCE OF PEACE IN KOREA, THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT OF 1953, BECAUSE IT MAKES CLEAR THAT THE UN COMMAND, AS SIGNATORY TO THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT, CAN BE REPLACED ONLY WHEN A SUBSTITUTE MECHANISM FOR MAINTAINING THE ARMISTICE IS AGREED BY ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED. THE RESOLUTION RESPONDS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S ENDORSEMENT IN THE CONSENSUS RESOLUTION OF 1973, REAFFIRMED LAST YEAR, OF TALKS BETWEEN SOUTH AND NORTH KOREA BY CALLING FOR A CONFERENCE BETWEEN ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED WITH THE ARMISTICE WHICH INCLUDES SOUTH AND NORTH KOREA, THE UNITED STATES AND THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA. IT FORESEES A CONFERENCE WHICH WOULD FIRST PROVIDE NEW MECHANISMS FOR MAINTAINING THE ARMISTICE BUT WHICH COULD THEN GO ON TO CONSIDER MORE LASTING ARRANGEMENTS FOR REDUCING TENSIONS ON THE PENINSULA.

THE RESOLUTION PRESENTED ON BEHALF OF NORTH KOREA DOES NOT RESPOND TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S PREVIOUS RESOLUTIONS BECAUSE IT CALLS FOR A PEACE SETTLEMENT BETWEEN THE "REAL
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PARTIES" WHICH NORTH KOREA IDENTIFIES AS THE UNITED STATES AND NORTH KOREA, EXCLUDING SOUTH KOREA WHICH IS AN ESSENTIAL PARTY TO ANY SUCH AGREEMENT. IT CALLS FOR REMOVING THE UN COMMAND WITHOUT ANY PROVISION FOR MAINTAINING THE ARMISTICE MECHANISM WHILE DISCUSSIONS OF A "PEACE AGREEMENT" PROCEED. THE RESOLUTION CALLS FOR WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN TROOPS "UNDER THE UN FLAG" WHICH NORTH KOREA MAKES CLEAR ARE U.S. TROOPS IN KOREA. THESE

TROOPS ARE IN KOREA UNDER A U.S.-ROK BILATERAL AGREEMENT
AT THE INVITATION OF THE ROK. NORTH KOREA, I NOTE,
MAINTAINS TREATIES OF MUTUAL DEFENSE WITH BOTH THE SOVIET
UNION AND THE PRC.

THE ALGERIAN RESOLUTION WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO INSTABILITY
ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA, IS BLATANTLY ONE-SIDED IN IGNORING
THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND INTERFERES IN AN IMPORTANT U.S.
SECURITY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE ROK. BECAUSE OF THE VERY
SERIOUS CONSIDERATIONS DESCRIBED ABOVE I HOPE YOU WILL

INSTRUCT YOUR DELEGATION IN NEW YORK TO VOTE AGAINST THIS
RESOLUTION. AT THE VERY LEAST I WOULD APPRECIATE IF IF
GUYANA WOULD ABSTAIN ON THE RESOLUTION AND SUPPORT US ON
THE PRIORITY QUESTION.

IF YOU WISH TO DISCUSS THESE TWO RESOLUTIONS FURTHER,
AMBASSADOR KREBS WILL BE PLEASED TO MEET WITH YOU. WARM
REGARDS, HENRY A. KISSINGER.

END TEXT.

KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMISTICE, TROOP DEPLOYMENT, UNGA RESOLUTIONS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE254964
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PWKRIEBEL:CB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750373-0030
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751017/aaaaaoyk.tel
Line Count: 138
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 GEORGETOWN 1732
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUL 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <19 NOV 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY TO FOREIGN MINISTER WILLS
TAGS: PFOR, KS, CD, US, UNGA, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (WILLS, FREDERICK R)
To: GEORGETOWN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006